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Grove Free Will Baptist Church

Stallings Grove, North Carolina

1896 – 1996

A Pictorial Commemorative Facts and Anecdotal History

by Carl B. Weaver, Jr.

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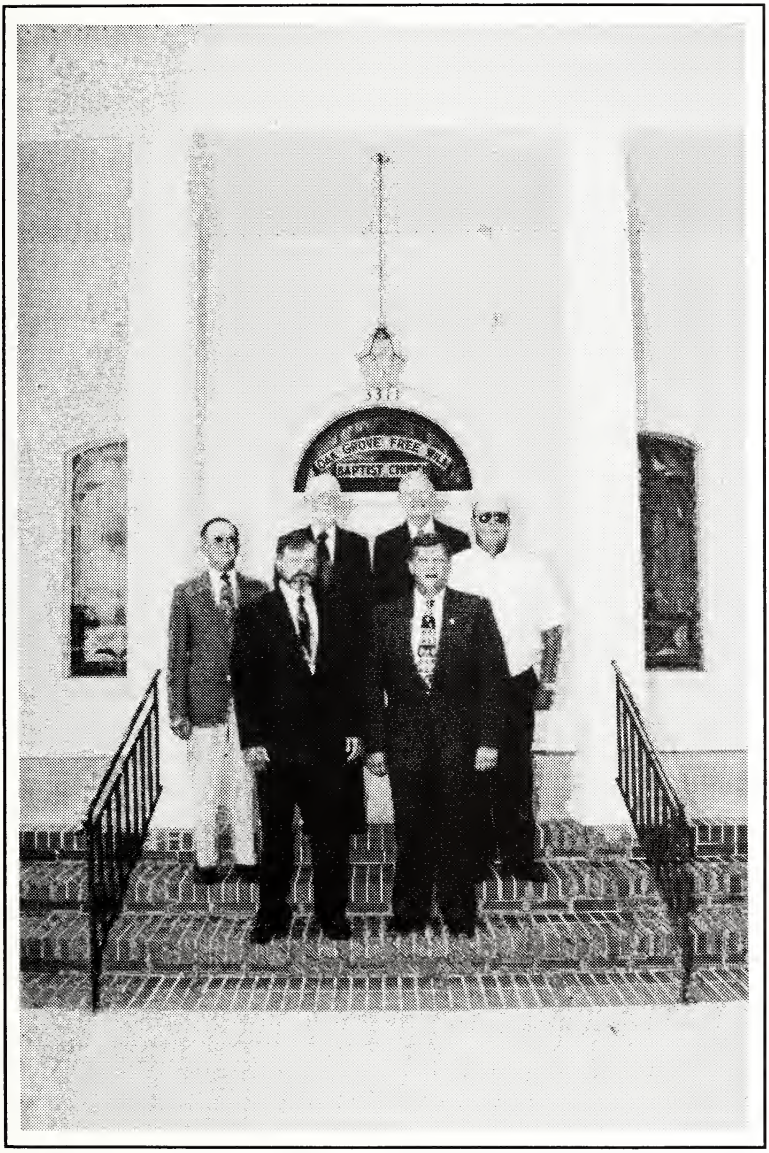
Warren, Carl B.
Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ne

Oak Grove Deacon Board



Bottom left-right: John Butler, Raeford Daughtry
Back left-right: Harper Warren, Tom Underwood,
Carl Bennett Warren, Jr., and Larry Holland

Photo taken July 7, 1996

Oak Grove Choir

Front Row:
Mary Sue Warren, Ida Ray Warren Eldridge, Charlotte Barefoot Hudson, Gail King Holland, Zona Mae Tutor Holland, Jennifer Butler Warren, Nell Holland Butler.

Second Row:
Willa Grey Warren Booth, Jean Brinson, Tina Underwood, Alaina Wilson, Alicia Underwood, Grace McLamb Jones, Seth Giddens.

Back Row:
Jeremy Hudson, Joshua Hudson, Carl Bennett Warren, Jr., Phillip Hudson, William Blake Warren, Jr., Larry Holland, John Butler, Jacob Giddens.

Photo taken July 7, 1996

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church

Newton Grove, North Carolina
1896–1996

Rev. Davie Brinson, Pastor

Photo taken July 7, 1996

Oak Grove FWB Church • Newton Grove, NC
1896 – 1996

Group photo taken Sunday, July 7, 1996

A HISTORY OF OAK GROVE FWB CHURCH 1896 – 1996

by Carl B. Warren, Jr.

Oak Grove FWB Church has been a part of my family and my family has been a part of Oak Grove for the past 100 years. This overview of its history is taken from my memory and knowledge.

I am the grandson of Lovett Warren, one of the original members, trustees, and founders. While we were living in Dunn in 1936, grandfather died. The following year, we moved into his house. Up until that time, we had been active in the Divine Street Methodist Church in Dunn. My mother, Ethel Baynes Warren, and I moved our membership to Oak Grove. My father, Carl Bennett Warren, Sr., chose to remain a lifelong Methodist at the Dunn church. During the past 59 years, I have been either involved in or familiar with all that has happened at Oak Grove.

Let us imagine how it was in 1896. Mr. Grover Cleveland was President of the United States. Moving pictures had just been invented. Travel was mostly on wagons, buggies, or rivers. The horseless carriage had just started to be manufactured. Ladies wore high-top shoes and long black skirts to the ankle with high-necked, leg-o-mutton sleeved white blouses. Going to church took much time down long, dusty cart paths.

At this time, the community was called Oak Grove because of the Oak Grove School which stood at the crossroads of the Williams Mill Road and the Goldsboro-Fayetteville Road. It was this same Goldsboro-Fayetteville Road that General William T. Sherman, 31 years earlier, sent one of his flanks down as they marched toward Bentonville. Oak Grove was the center of community life. Things that concerned the citizens usually were discussed at the school. This was the case when a group met to organize Oak Grove FWB Church. Those who went to church had to attend Newton Grove, Reedy Prong, or Shady Grove. Credit has been given to Shady Grove as being our mother church.

The decision was made to purchase one acre of land from Mr. Adolphus "Rob" Lee, a freed slave. Mr. Henry Carroll Ivey of Dunn was contracted to build the church. While Mr. Ivey was building the church, he met Mr. Campbell Warren and his daughter Flora, both original church members. Mr. Ivey soon married Flora.

The building plan followed the style of most country churches at that

time. It was rectangular with a front and back door; the window sashes were six panes over six panes of clear glass. The exterior was covered in fat pine weather-boarding with a hand-drawn, wooden shingled roof. Sunday school rooms were instantly made by drawing green burlap draperies on one-inch galvanized pipes fixed to the ceiling. These were in all four corners.

The pulpit sat on a platform behind a semi-circular banister. On the floor in front of the pulpit was a black iron, pot-bellied heater with a smoke pipe extending straight up. Light at night was furnished by kerosene lamps hung on pull-down chains. The glass shades were hand-painted. Electricity did not come to Oak Grove until the 1940s. The benches were locally made with wide, heart-of-pine boards. The ceiling and walls were covered with beaded boards.

Quarterly business conferences were always on Saturday morning at ten o'clock. They used the same agenda we use today. This was the only time they had communion and foot washing. The enameled, foot washing pans used then are still used today. The business session was later changed to Sunday night. Also, communion was begun once each quarter at the 11 AM service.

The first year, 32 members joined Oak Grove. The original trustees were Mr. John Ellis Warren, Sr.; his father-in-law, Mr. Paden Tart; and his brother, Mr. Lovett Warren. It was customary to have preaching only on the first Sunday of each month. (During the 1950s, the church voted to expand to first and third Sunday preaching.) In 1985, Oak Grove began having preaching every Sunday.

Oak Grove did not build any additions until the late 1930s. A committee of Mrs. Ethel B. Warren, Mrs. Mary W. Maultsby, and Miss Thelma Lee solicited timber and money to be used to build the front four Sunday school rooms.

Expansion began again in the 1950s when the educational building was built. This included the bathrooms, east hall, kitchen, back four Sunday school rooms, and original part of the fellowship hall. Air conditioning was installed only in the front part of the church. A few years later, the foyer, front porch, steeple, and stained glass windows were added. Oak Grove was one of the first churches in the area to have a fellowship hall, an electronic organ, and an on-the-site constructed steeple.

As the church continued to grow, many features were added or updated. They included a choir loft, baptistery, new benches, carpet, west hall, utility room, and air conditioning for the educational building.

With increasing membership, the church desperately needed extra parking. A land gift from Mrs. Ethel B. Warren provided a total new landscape in the 1980s. Underground drainage, contouring of the lawn to better shed water, paved driveways and parking areas, and shrubbery by Mrs. Lottie I. Weeks were included in this plan. (Mrs. Weeks is the daughter of the builder, Mr. Henry Carroll Ivey. The dogwood in the west garden is in memory of Mr. Ivey.)

Additions continued in the 1990s. The church decided to double the size of the fellowship hall. With this came vinyl siding, a new roof on the educational building, a complete sound system, and additional air conditioning. New chandeliers were installed in 1995 and in 1996, the choir received new robes.

Until the Rev. R.P. Harris came to Oak Grove, there was no organized choir. With the purchase of an organ in the 1960s, a serious effort was made to produce sacred music to glorify God and to enhance the Sunday morning services. All types of music have been performed including spirituals, hymns, classicals, and original compositions. The choir direction has been provided by Mr. Craven E. Lee; Mrs. Christine Godwin; Mrs. John E. Warren, Jr.; and Mrs. Mary Sue Warren. Other song leaders include Mr. Abel Warren; Mr. Walton Daughtry; Mr. John B. Hargrove; Mr. C. I. Godwin; Mr. Alton Bizzell; Mr. Phillip Godwin; Mr. Phil Hudson; and Mr. Larry Holland. Organ accompaniment has been furnished by Mr. Carl B. Warren, Jr.; Mrs. Cathy W. Mason; Mrs. Belinda W. Junghans; Mrs. Mary Sue Warren; and Mr. Michael Daughtry. Many have played the piano for Oak Grove, but probably the longest and most faithful was Mrs. Katie Tart Lee. Others include Mrs. Iris L. Cotton; Mrs. Rachel L. Williams; Mrs. Mary Sue Warren; Mrs. Christine Godwin; Mrs. Willa Dean Daughtry; Mrs. Mary Ethel G. Britt; Mrs. Shirley Godwin; Mrs. Martha W. Warner; Mrs. June H. Hairr; Mrs. Shirley W. Tart; Mrs. Vickie Lewis; Mr. Carl B. Warren, Jr.; Mr. Michael Daughtry; and Ms. Caroline C. Warren.

Oak Grove has always been one big family — a caring and sharing community, ready to help in times of need. Gifts and tithes are evident everywhere you look — all to glorify our Heavenly Father, the giver of every good and perfect gift. Oak Grove is the result of effort, time, and money given unselfishly by many dedicated people. As you look around both indoors and outdoors, you will see memorial plaques that attest to the great love for God, church, family, and friends. Our gratitude cannot be measured. Oak Grove is truly God's house, a sacred place where *all* is dedicated to glorifying and honoring the Lord.

Preachers who have served Oak Grove are as follow:

1896–1905	Unknown
1906–1908	J. F. Owens
1908–1908	R. C. Jackson
1908–1909	James Madison Wilson
1909–1912	J. H. Hill
1912–1913	W. R. Coats
1913–1917	J. R. Wallace
1917–1918	E. J. McKay
1918–1919	J. G. Casey
1919–1920	L. H. Wetherington
1920–1923	D. R. Ennis
1923–1926	B. P. Parks
1926–1941	J. W. Alford
1941–1944	J. R. Bennett
1944–1946	R. B. Spencer
1946–1951	W. Burkette Raper
1951–1956	Minot E. Godwin
1956–1956	Norman Adams
1956–1962	R. P. Harris
1962–1963	Austin Carter
1963–1985	C. Felton Godwin
1985–present	Davie Brinson

Church clerks who have served Oak Grove are:

1896–1908	Unknown
1908–1933	Westbrook Lee, Sr.
1933–1933	Y. W. Eldridge
1933–1939	Mrs. Y. W. Eldridge
1939–1948	Miss Thelma Lee
1948–1949	Craven E. Lee
1949–1975	Mrs. Katie T. Lee
1975–1980	Mrs. Thelma West
1980–present	Mrs. Nell H. Butler

Members who joined Oak Grove during 1896 were:

John E. Warren, Sr.
Ann Eliza McPhail Warren
Martha A. Keen
Flora Warren
Campbell Warren
Lovett Warren
Nehenah Tart Warren
Bessie Lee
Ashley Warren
Handy West
E. M. Tart
Betsy Bizzell
Alberta Tart Warren
Minnie Strickland
Patsy Bagley
P. G. A. Tart
Charlie Warren
Phelonah Warren
Sampson Warren
Kilta Ann Warren
Amanda Warren
W. G. Bennett
Spicy Bennett
M. N. Edwards
Ona B. Godwin
James W. Lee
Frank Warren
Sarah F. Warren
W. E. Godwin
Rapsie Godwin
J. H. Strickland
Arry F. Strickland

An attempt to mention all of the fine people who have been a part of Oak Grove would be impossible. However, the following are some who are now deceased:

Mrs. Annie McPhail
Mr. and Mrs. Craven E. Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Roscus Lewis
Mrs. Minnie Anders
Mr. and Mrs. Kermit West
Mr. Abel Warren
Mr. and Mrs. Winslow Tart
Mr. and Mrs. Ira Warren
Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Godwin
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Warren, Sr.
Mrs. Lizzie Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Lovett Warren
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Parson
Mr. and Mrs. Willie Daughtry
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Holland
Mrs. Emma Rose
Mr. Carrington Johnson
Mr. Alvin Sessoms
Mr. Wilbert Lewis
Mr. C. Felton Godwin
Mrs. Katie Tart Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Estel Brock
Mr. and Mrs. Y. W. Eldridge
Miss Eva Jackson
Miss Thelma Lee
Mrs. Vada Bizzell
Mr. Fulton Blackman
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Warren
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Bass
Mrs. Estelle Dudley
Mr. and Mrs. Malcomb Warren
Mr. Arlon Jones
Mrs. Fronnie Jones
Mrs. Mary Maultsby
Mr. Albert Lewis
Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Lewis
Mrs. Rozier Daughtry
Mr. Jack Ray Tart
Mr. Bobby Holland
Mrs. Ethel B. Warren

Mr. Cyrus J. Faircloth
Guest Speaker
Craven E. Lee Sunday School Class
Sunday, January 28, 1996

Mr. Cyrus Faircloth is a prominent lawyer from the firm of Faircloth and Taylor in Clinton. Mr. and Mrs. Raeford Daughtry invited Mr. Faircloth to speak at Oak Grove to launch the series of guest speakers in commemoration of our 100th Anniversary. Active in church work for many years, it was evident that Mr. Faircloth has a vast knowledge of the Bible.

Mr. Faircloth began with the Book of Genesis. As he proceeded through all the Books, he touched on many of the highlights in each Book. He ended the morning lesson with the Book of Revelation. This tour through the Holy Bible gave the seasoned scholar as well as the casual student an interesting overview.

The Craven E. Lee class enjoyed Mr. Faircloth's presentation. It was obvious that he was at ease and felt at home with his subject.

Centennial Birthday Party
Sunday, February 25, 1996

Oak Grove FWB Church began its centennial year of celebrations with a birthday party. The first segment of the events was held in the sanctuary.

Mr. Jeremy Hudson gave the welcome. The congregation responded by singing "Happy Birthday Oak Grove." A history of the Annie McPhail Ladies' Auxiliary was given by Mrs. Berneice Godwin.

A time for reminiscing followed by Mrs. Mae Ellen Warwick, Mrs. Willa Dean Daughtry, and Miss Tina Underwood. They gave nostalgic descriptions of memorable occasions, some as early as childhood, at Oak Grove. The Rev. Davie Brinson closed the program with prayer.

Members and guests adjourned to the fellowship hall where bountiful tables of birthday cake, several flavors of ice cream, finger food, and drinks were enjoyed. A large crowd attended.

Spaghetti Supper
April 28, 1996

The fellowship hall was the location for a musical program and a spaghetti supper. Mrs. Eloise Warren gave a history of the choir at Oak Grove. Mrs. Mary Sue Warren and Ms. Wendy Giddens presented a musical program featuring the young people.

An ensemble featuring Alaine Wilson, Amanda Warren, and Alicia and Tina Underwood were accompanied by Mrs. Mary Sue Warren. They played "You'll Never Walk Alone," "He," and "A Thing Called Love."

The Band of Angels followed by performing "Love Lifted Me," "I Saw the Light," "Peace in the Valley," and "I'll Fly Away." The band is comprised of the following musicians:

Clarinet:	Tina Underwood and Lisa Lewis
Flute:	Amanda Warren and Alicia Underwood
Trombone:	Jeremy Hudson and Seth Giddens
Trumpet:	Jacob Giddens, Josh Hudson, and Roy Wilson
Baritone:	Alaina Wilson
Alto Saxophone:	Blake Warren
Percussion:	William Warren, Carrie Wilson, Justin Warren, Pamela Warren, Andrea Lucas, and Travis Eldridge

Mr. Raeford Daughtry recognized Mrs. Eloise Warren for her years of dedicated service to the choir. This included a gift of appreciation.

Following the blessing offering by the Rev. David Brinson, a sit-down spaghetti supper was served. The food and beverages were served by the young people of the church. The menu included spaghetti, tossed salad, and dessert. A large crowd attended.

Mr. Larry Barnes
Guest Speaker
Craven E. Lee Sunday School Class
Sunday, May 26, 1996

Mr. Larry Barnes, a lay speaker from Hopewell Methodist Church, was invited to teach the Craven E. Lee Sunday school class by Mr. and Mrs. Raeford Daughtry.

The text used was from Matthew 6:5–15. To illustrate how we communicate with God in prayer, Mr. Barnes used today's communication technology as an analogy. He was very complimentary as he commended us on our 100th birthday. He pointed out all the saints who have stood in our church, offered prayers, gave of themselves spiritually and financially and who now have gone to be with the Lord. Their efforts have made possible what we enjoy today.

The class enjoyed his lively, one-on-one presentation of the lesson. He certainly helped make our birthday celebration even more meaningful.

Cape Fear Union Meeting
Saturday, June 29, 1996

It was our turn (Oak Grove) to hold the 1996 Cape Fear Union meeting. This was appropriate since it is Oak Grove's 100th anniversary — another reason to celebrate.

The welcome was given by the host church, Oak Grove. A response from Lee's Chapel followed. Then came the enrollment of officers and ministers. A roll call of the churches, reading of the minutes, and general business was next.

After a break, Oak Grove's pastor, the Rev. Davie Brinson, gave the morning message. Mrs. Mary Sue Warren presented a program with the youth. Jeremy Hudson read Scripture, Tina Underwood provided a patriotic reading, and Jacob Giddens offered prayer. A medley of patriotic songs was performed by Mrs. Mary Sue Warren (piano), Amanda Warren (flute), and Alaine Wilson (trumpet). Reports from the treasurer and various committees followed.

At noon, the ladies of Oak Grove served a delicious lunch featuring home-cooked vegetables, ham, turkey, and a variety of desserts. Approximately 80 people attended the meeting.

Independence Day Celebration

Sunday, July 7, 1996

Sponsored by the Young Adult Class

In preparation for this national and local event, the church was decorated throughout with a patriotic motif. A memorial flower arrangement was placed on the altar table by Mr. and Mrs. Raeford Daughtry in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Parson. An American flag was on each dining table as well as in the sanctuary.

The day began with Sunday school at 10 AM. The eleven o'clock service featured music with the theme of God and country. The Rev. Davie Brinson's message pointed out the length to which our forefathers risked their lives in the struggle to break away from the mother country. He noted how many of the conflicts were started on church properties in the colonies.

At noon, a bountiful lunch was served in the fellowship hall. The ladies brought an array of vegetables, desserts, and drinks. Mr. Phil Hudson cooked and brought barbecued chicken and pork.

Mr. and Mrs. David Warren recorded the events of the day on video. Mr. A. G. Santos from Clinton came to photograph the entire group of attendees on the front steps following lunch. He also made a group photo of the deacon board and a group photo of the choir in their new robes.

A "sing" was held in the sanctuary at 2 PM. The featured musicians were Ms. Jennifer Taylor of Carthage and The Dixie Travelers from Roseboro. At intermission, Andy's Ice Cream was served.

The attendance for the morning worship service was 139. Tithes and offerings totaled $1,095.28. The weather was hot and beautiful.

100th Anniversary Vacation Bible School
August 10, 1996

The 1996 Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School was held on Saturday, August 10. To continue our Centennial Celebration, we chose to have an old-fashioned Bible School.

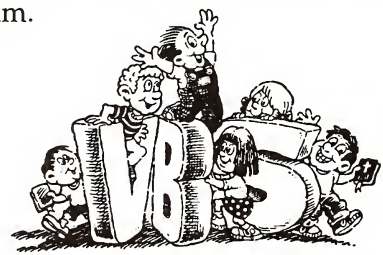
The worship service was opened with pledges to the American and Christian flags and to the Bible. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Charlotte Hudson. Mrs. Mary Sue Warren provided the music allowing the students to sing old-time favorites.

Mrs. Berneice Godwin told the children about the following miracles for the Old Testament beginning with the prophet Elisha in 2 Kings.

- Elisha calling the two bears
- Elisha purifying a poisoned pot of stew
- Elisha recovering the floating axe head
- Elisha purifying water
- Elisha filling the dry valley with water
- Elisha prophesying that an old woman would have a son because she had been good to him. Later, the boy died from a heat stroke. Elisha brought the boy back to life.
- Elisha feeding 100 men with a sack of fresh corn and 20 loaves of bread
- Elisha healing Naaman, the leper

Mrs. Charlotte Hudson, Mrs. Zona Holland, Mrs. Jean Brinson, and Mrs. Rhonda West assisted students as they learned how to create homemade Christmas ornaments by stuffing sewn cutouts and hand-sewing them to completion. The ornaments will be used to decorate an old-timey Christmas tree in December to close out our Centennial year.

The service was successfully closed with the blessing given by Mrs. Jean Brinson and a lunch of old-fashioned hot dogs, chips, and Andy's homemade ice cream.



Mr. James Henry Parson
Guest Speaker
Craven E. Lee Sunday School Class
Sunday, September 22, 1996

Mr. Parson, the guest speaker in the Craven E. Lee Sunday school class is the son of Mr. Henry Bryant Parson. He is originally from Newton Grove and currently resides in Clinton. Mr. Parson has pastored Beaver Dam Baptist Church in Roseboro; Willard Baptist Church in Wallace; Concord Baptist Church; and Newton Grove Baptist Church (Interim).

In his lesson, Mr. Parson pointed out how Jeremiah was told by God to plead for the people to repent. They were not to trust in deceptive words. Jeremiah preached to the people that it was wrong to use God's house to cover for the sins they committed outside the church.

According to Jeremiah, the following five commandments had been broken by the people:

- Thou shalt not steal
- Thou shalt not kill
- Thou shalt not commit adultery
- Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor
- Thou shalt have no other gods before Me

God told the people to remember what happened to them in previous years. He had destroyed the Tabernacle because of their continued evil ways of using the church as a cover.

The Craven E. Lee class enjoyed Mr. Parson's lesson. His preparedness and presentation kept the listener connected to the message of the hour. Mr. Parson was the final in the series of guest speakers for the centennial celebration.

Oak Grove FWB Church
100th Homecoming
Centennial Celebration
1896–1996
Sunday, October 6, 1996

The Homecoming Sunday school service began with hymns, the devotion, and an adjournment to individual classes.

For the eleven o'clock service, Mrs. Mary Sue Warren played the organ prelude followed by the call to worship. The invocation was delivered by the Rev. Davie Brinson. The hymn "Faith of Our Fathers" reminded us of our dedicated heritage over the past one hundred years.

The welcome was given by Mrs. June H. Hairr and the response was conveyed by Mr. Ray Warwick. Those who have died during the past year were remembered in a touching memorial service by Mrs. Willa Dean Daughtry.

After the morning Scripture reading and prayer, the choir sang the old-timey hymn "Amazing Grace" in anthem form. A litany commemorating this historic event was composed by Mrs. Mary Sue Warren and was read by the Rev. Davie Brinson with responsive reading from the congregation.

The Rev. Brinson introduced Mr. Raeford Daughtry who presided over the unveiling of the portrait of the church. Mr. David Godwin was commissioned to design the picture and it will hang in the fellowship hall at Oak Grove.

Our speaker for the day was the Rev. Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President Emeritus of Mount Olive College. This event marked the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Raper's pastorship at Oak Grove which began in 1946. After Dr. Raper left Oak Grove, he founded Mount Olive College and has made significant contributions to Christian education and to the Free Will Baptist denomination. His message was a nostalgic reminder of the good old days.

Following the tithes and offerings, we sang "America" and adjourned for a delicious covered dish lunch and a social hour.

The afternoon ceremony was the culmination of a great day. The highlight of the ceremony was the burying of a time capsule which contained personal and church pictures, news items, recordings, and other memorabilia.

Flowers given in memory and in honor of the following people adorned the church:

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Warren, I.G. Warren, Hilda Warren, and Terry W. Denning — by the Ira Warren family

In memory of Mr. Carrington Johnson and in honor of Mrs. Thelma Lee Johnson — by the children

In memory of Reverend C. Felton Godwin and in honor of Mrs. Christine Godwin — by Mrs. Mary Sue Warren and Mr. Carl B. Warren, Jr.

In memory of Mrs. Minnie Anders and Miss Eva Jackson — by the Holland family

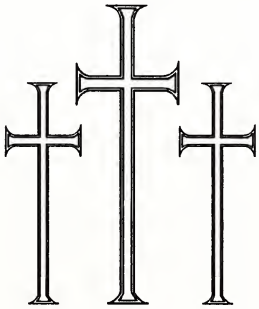
In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Y. W. Eldridge, Betty, Marie, Lee and Julius Wiley — by Mrs. Berniece Eldridge and family

In memory of Mrs. Tillie Westbrook — by Jean and Ray McCullen

In memory of John E. Warren III; Mr. and Mrs. John E. Warren, Sr.; and Mr. and Mrs. P.G.A. Tart — by Mr. and Mrs. John E. Warren, Jr.

In memory of Mr. Arlon Jones — by Mrs. Grace Jones and family

In memory of Mr. Henry Alvin Sessoms and Mr. Henry Curtis Sessoms and in honor of Mrs. Ada Sessoms — by Mr. and Mrs. James O. Gant, Hannah, Ada, and Jesse



Centennial Litany for Oak Grove

1896–1996

by Mary Sue Warren

Leader: Almighty Father, as we celebrate this century of Christian service, make us ever mindful of your mercy. For founding fathers with a vision to establish a church in the Rosin Hill – Westbrook community.

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For a sacred sanctuary where God speaks through inspirational music and messages,

All: We give you praise, O Lord.

Leader: For generous spirits who provide charity for all,

All: We give you love, O Lord.

Leader: For dedicated members whose courageous convictions and loving hearts have transformed the Scriptures into service,

All: We give you praise, O Lord.

Leader: For faithful families who lend their helping hands when the burdens of life become too heavy to bear,

All: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: May we face the future without fear of oppression or injustice.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: May Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church be a place of peace, a haven of rest of weary souls.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: Fill our lives with your light and our hearts with your love. May we lean daily on your everlasting arms as we strive to do your will.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: As we worship together in the coming century, let us know afresh the joy of Christ's living presence, the strength to face every circumstance of life, and the knowledge that nothing can ever separate us from your love.

All: Amen.

Centennial Committees

Centennial Officers	Mr. Raeford Daughtry, Chairman Mr. Carl B. Warren, Jr. Mrs. Charlotte Hudson Mrs. Zona Holland Mrs. Berneice Godwin
Time Capsule	Mr. Jake Hudson Mr. Phil Hudson
Publicity	Mrs. Gail Holland Mrs. Gay Wilson
Souvenirs	Mrs. June Hairr Mrs. Nell Butler Mr. Blake Warren Mr. Roy Wilson
Video	Mrs. Willa Dean Daughtry
Logo	Mr. David Godwin
Music/Litany	Mrs. Mary Sue Warren

100th Bithday Party
Mrs. Berneice Godwin
Mrs. Charlotte Hudson
Mrs. June Hairr
Ms. Wendy Giddens
Mrs. Nell Butler

Spaghetti Supper
Mrs. Jean Brinson
Mrs. Mary Sue Warren
Mrs. Carolyn Underwood
Mrs. Willa Dean Daughtry
Ms. Wendy Giddens

Independence Day
Young Adult Class — Mr. John Butler, Chairman

Homecoming
Mrs. Zona Holland
Mr. Carl B. Warren, Jr.
Mrs. Mary Sue Warren
Reverend Davie Brinson
Mr. Larry Holland

Mrs. Gail Holland
Mrs. Nell Butler
Mr. John Butler
Mrs. Brenda Scott
Mr. Tommy Scott

Oak Grove FWB Making The News

The Daily Record, Dunn, N.C., Tuesday, April 30, 1996

THESE LITTLE THINGS

HOOVER ADAMS

...Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, located on Highway 13 out from Newton Grove, is celebrating its 100th year of service this year... The church was built in 1896 by the late Henry Carroll Ivey, father of Lottie Weeks of Dunn... Her two daughters, Mrs. Olen (Dean) McLeod and Mrs. Charles (Frances) Lewis landscaped the church and did a beautiful job... The centennial celebration is going on all year long...

Information released to Mr. Hoover Adams of *The Daily Record* by Mrs. Lottie Weeks, daughter of Mrs. Henry Carroll Ivey and Mrs. Flora Warren Ivey (original member).

Friday, June 21, 1996, THE SAMPSON INDEPENDENT

Oak Grove FWB celebrates 100th year of Christian service

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Newton Grove is celebrating its 100th year of Christian Service this year.

Its members are enjoying fellowshipping and looking back on memories of years gone by.

As part of the celebration services, the youth of the church shared their musical talents during an evening program of music. Called the "Band of Angels," the young people performed with their musical instruments, led by Mary Sue Warren and Wendy Giddens.

The service was also a time of remembering former pastors and music directors who devoted many hours to develop the music program of the church.

A gift of new choir robes was presented to the church by the children of long-standing choir member, Ruth Daughtry. The robes were a beautiful addition to the church, in memory of a lovely and gracious lady.

The evening service was ended with a spaghetti dinner served by the ladies of the church.

The church will continue to celebrate their 100th anniversary throughout the rest of the year, and will move forward with anticipation, seeking what God has planned for them.

Written and submitted to *The Sampson Independent* by Mrs. Roy Wilson

Notes:

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Logo Art: Mr. David Godwin
Printing: Free Will Baptist Press